

REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Restriction Requirement mailed September 22, 2005, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on October 22, 2005.

Claims 1-49 are pending in the application and are subject to restriction and/or election requirement. The claims have been restricted under 35 U.S.C. § 121 as follows:

- I. Claims 1-6, 14-30, and 38-49, drawn to client verification of certificates delivered by a certificate authority via the use of hash values to establish trust levels, classified in class 713, subclass 156.
- II. Claims 7-13 and 31-37, drawn to certificate delivery and validation via the use of SSL handshaking and certificate chain containing a root certificate, classified in class 709, subclass 237.

Applicant provisionally elects the claims of Group I with traverse. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the restriction requirement, and requests that the restriction requirement be withdrawn for at least the following reasons:

A search appropriate for the claims of Group I substantially overlaps a search appropriate for the claims of Group II.

To the extent this restriction requirement is maintained by the Examiner, Applicant reserves the right to subsequently file a divisional application in order to prosecute the invention recited in the non-elected group of claims.

As such and because of the above traversal, Applicant respectfully submits that the Right of Petition under 37 CFR §1.144 has been preserved.

If however, the Examiner believes that there are any unresolved issues requiring adverse final action in any of the claims now pending in the application, it is requested that the Examiner telephone Eamon J. Wall at (732) 530-9404 so that appropriate arrangements can be made for resolving such issues as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

10/17/05

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